

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
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Fernando L. ALVARADO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 5984
: :
Application No.: 09/522,709 : Group Art Unit: 3693
: :
Filed: March 10, 2000 : Examiner: CHANDLER, Sara M.
: :
For: METHOD FOR MANAGING RISK IN MARKETS RELATED TO COMMODITIES
DELIVERED OVER A NETWORK
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

Each reference was cited in at least one of four United States application Office Actions and its relevance discussed therein. Copies of the four United States Office Actions are attached for the Examiner's information. Please note that all other cited references have been previously submitted in the present application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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